



September 17, 2010

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington DC 20423-001

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Office of Proceedings

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Public Record

Re: Issaquah Subdivision (Redmond Spur) reactivation - Docket # FD 35407

Dear Ms. Brown;

We are the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties (MBA). The Association was founded in 1909 by a group of Seattle builders who saw a need to unite to address the many concerns and issues affecting the housing industry. They shared technology and jointly solved construction problems, and they actively worked with government to develop laws that protected the environment while still providing attractive, affordable communities and homes for the families of the Puget Sound region.

With more than 3,500 member companies, representing all facets of housing construction, the MBA has grown to become the largest local home builders association in the United States. The Association provides services, programs, legislative representation and membership opportunities unparalleled by any other trade association.

We are writing in support the petition of GNP Railway to restore the rail line between Woodinville and Redmond, WA to active operation. It is our understanding that GNP has been authorized by the federal Surface Transportation Board to operate a rail line between Snohomish and Woodinville that was formerly owned and operated by BNSF

MBA of King and Snohomish Counties
335 116th Avenue SE
Bellevue, Washington 98004
- 425.451 7920 - 425 646 5985
www.masterbuildersinfo.com

Railway Company. I also understand that GNP desires to reactivate the branch off the Snohomish-Woodinville line that extends over to Redmond that would serve many lumber, drywall, building supply and other vital building interests in the Willows Rd./ Redmond corridor. Anything that can assist in the re-invigoration of the construction industry would be vital to our national economic recovery. This branch has been in the process of being converted to recreational use as a rail trail, but we have indications that many building industry suppliers in and around the line desire the reinstitution of freight rail service.

In conclusion, we urge the Board to grant GNP's petition to reactivate this rail line.

Sincerely,



Don Davis, Government Affairs Director

Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties

cc.

John Heffner, 1750 K Street,
N.W., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006;

Charles A. Spitulnik, Kaplan Kirsch &
Rockwell LLP, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036;

Craig Watson, Port of Seattle, Pier 69, P.O. Box 1209, Seattle, WA 98111; and

Kristy Clark, BNSF Railway Company, 2500 Lou Menk Drive, AOB-3, Fort Worth, TX
76131.